GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2529
ANSWERED ON:16.03.2017
Natural Fibres
Rai Shri Prem Das

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is taking steps to promote natural fibres such as banana, Himalayan nettle, bamboo and hemp; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES
(SHRI AJAY TAMTA)

(a) & (b): Yes Madam. Research and Development in natural fibres such as Banana, Himalayan nettle, Bamboo and hemp are supported under Ministry of Textiles' "Scheme for Research and Development for the Textile Industry including Jute".

2. Under the Scheme, Government of India provides financial support to the extent of 70% of the project cost for undertaking applied research and to the extent of 100% for undertaking basic research by reputed research agencies including Textile Research Association's (TRA), Universities, Industry Associations, Government approved research centers such as IITs/Government aided Institutions/ recognized engineering colleges/institutions approved by DST/DSIR etc.

3. For the Himalayan Indian Nettle, Government has approved one project titled Development of products from Himalayan Indian nettle with project cost of Rs. 67.48 lakh to Department of Jute and Fibre Technology, Institute of Jute Technology, University of Kolkata. Similarly, for Banana Fibre, Government has approved two projects titled "Development of eco-friendly recyclable/bio-degradable value added technical textiles from banana yarns (Completed in 2013) and "Development of banana fabric suitable for extreme cold Weather by plasma Technology" (Completed in 2015) to Manmade Textile Research Association, Surat. MANTRA is making efforts to commercialize these products.

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